

# Legion Rivals Collide on Saturday

## FROM THE BRIDGE

### Dodger-Hater Sounds Off

By BILL SCHIPPER—Sports Editor

Prepare to defend yourself if you're an ardent L. A. fan and you casually remark to a Dodger-hater that the O'Malley's will still win the pennant—despite their 8½ game deficit.

This I did t'other evening and it resulted in a howl, a roar, and a caustic snort from a coffee-break buddy, known to his cohorts as Larry The Walking Baseball Encyclopedia—and as professed and vehement a Dodger-hater as any that's walking the streets today.

After gurgling his java in laughter, Larry—who happens to worship the Cleveland Indians—replied in prophecy, "Man, come October it'll be the Indians and the Pirates in the Series."

"The Dodgers are so helpless it's pitiful. There must have been a few behind the scenes payoffs last year for them to win the pennant. If those pop-gun artists had to play in a place like Yankee Stadium, they wouldn't get 83 homers all year."

"DOC" STETSON

Here I jumped in and tried to defend the O'Malley's, which brought another snort and a howl as he almost leaped out of his chair at the mere mention of the Dodger-owner's name.

"That crook. Why doesn't he schedule more double headers for the fans. I think they only play two—maybe three all year while teams in the American League are playing from 14 to 17 and 18.

"He's got the most loyal fans in baseball and the biggest attendance in the history of the game, but all Walter is interested in is single games so he can get more money."

"On top of all that, O'Malley charges more money per seat than any other stadium in baseball."

"Speaking of the Coliseum, that place is without a doubt the biggest farce of a 'stadium' in the history of major league baseball. The average fan who has to shell out \$3.50 for a half-way decent seat has to take along his transistor radio and binoculars because it's hard to see what's happening on the field from 70 rows up on the 40 yard line."

"Meanwhile, O'Malley, his crooked cronies and those paid-off councilmen get the good seats."

"If Walter was half-way on the ball—instead of hassling for all the free property in Los Angeles—he could've had a ballpark now instead of by 1962 or whenever they're gonna open the joint."

"A couple of weeks ago I was up at Candlestick Park, and putting it mildly, that place makes the Dodgers' 'home' look bush league all the way, man."

"Instead of a ballpark, the Coliseum looks like a department store with all those booths where they must sell everything from ladies' nighties to Dodger bathtowels."

"Just more money for O'Malley."

"I'll say one thing good about the Dodgers, though. That Alton must be a genius or something. After winning the pennant (and the Worlds Championship) with that slobbering team last year, he'd have to be a mastermind."

Whew! After getting that tossed down my throat, I can only say one thing Larry: If you're so smart, how come you're not rich?

MOST BALLPLAYERS can relate humorous incidents regarding their playing "careers" but I challenge anyone to top the true story circulating about Dr. Rodney Stetson.

"Doc" Stetson, who does his baseballing with the Torrance Merchants in the city's Service Slo-Pitch Softball League, was whisked away from a game about five years ago to the hospital via police car to make an emergency baby delivery.

Then he was whisked back to the ballpark in time to get in his last licks at the plate. That's how much he enjoys the game.

Dr. Stetson—who is the doctor in attendance at Torrance High and North High home football games during the prep grid season—has missed just one of about 150 games in the 10 years that the slo-pitch program has been set up in Torrance.

And that was due to a conflicting vacation schedule. His Torrance Merchant teammates tell me that there aren't many who get the enjoyment and satisfaction in playing the game that he does. The good-natured doctor—who'll be 46 the 17th of this month—is still playing despite a sometimes painful torn cartilage knee injury which he sustained about three seasons ago in an attempted slide at second base.

"I've just never gotten around to having it fixed", he says. As a result, whenever he reaches first base safely, the Merchants call in a courtesy pinch-runner.

Two or three things stand out in "Doc" Stetson's mind after all these years of competing in the program. One was watching Kip Randall knock the 16-inch melon over the left-field fence at Torrance Park, and the other was a "Cinderella" victory over the Torrance Kiwanis which ruined the Kiwanis chances at winning the pennant several years ago.

"It was the last game of the season, and we were down near the bottom and they were tied for the league lead. With two outs in the last inning we were losing 3-1 and had two men on base but two strikes on the hitter, Art Woodcock."

"Then by gosh Art hit the only home run he hit all season and we won 4-3 to knock the Kiwanis off their stepladder. It was quite a thrill", he relates with a chuckle.

"The main thing", he adds, "is to have a good time. Sure the guys like to win, but that isn't the most important thing in the world."

His team opposition as well as his teammates admire and respect the man for his determination, his desire and his attitude.

### THURSDAY TIDBITS . . .

Mike Thornton, the high-priced Dodger bonus baby from Serra High School, struck out 17 batters last week while pitching for Orlando of the Florida State League. Thornton, a southpaw, graduated from Serra in '58 where he was also quite a gridiron hero. He quarterbacked the Cavaliers to second place in the rugged Catholic League, behind only Mt. Carmel which featured the McKeever twins . . . Pat Schleibaum, the homer-hitting hero of the Harbor City Dodgers, has a fantastic batting average of well over .600 plus 13 home runs. "The kid even hits 'em off the handles", one amazed observer reports. The Dodgers have won 19 in a row . . . North High School track and field coach Bill Ellings is a former triple-threat back from Whittier College. He can tell you about the collegiate gridiron days when a forward pass had to be made five yards behind the line of scrimmage . . .



SEEKING 20TH STRAIGHT . . . The remarkable Harbor City Little League Dodgers go in quest of their 20th straight win without a loss tomorrow night as the season draws near its end. The unbeaten champions are one of few Torrance area teams to go unbeaten for the year. Pictured are (front row) Gene Samson, Steve Okamura,

Steve Fukuzaki, Donald Graham, Norman Giffen, batboy Mark Schleibaum. Top row: Steve Okamura, manager, Harold Stevens, Steven Kegley, John Meenan, Charles Morrow, John Kopchick, Pat Schleibaum, Mark DuBose, Joseph Kopchick, coach. (Mac photo).

### Little Leaguer

#### 13th Homer Socked By Schleibaum

The undefeated Harbor City Little League Dodgers added two more wins to their lengthy skein this week, using their favorite weapon—the home run—to bomb the Phillies twice, 23-3 and 7-2.

The power-hitting little leaguers socked four homers in the 23-3 rout, two by John Kopchick and one each by Pat Schleibaum and John Meehan.

SCHLEIBAUM leads the loop with 13 round trippers.

Norman Giffen homered in the 7-2 contest.

Highlights of other games found Mark Milburn sending two pitches out of the park, one for a grand slam, as the Giants walloped the Pirates 18-2. Milburn also was the winning pitcher.

Bob Coleman touched all the bases in the Braves' 3-2 triumph over the Cubs, then in a second engagement between the same two teams Jim Alexander and Tom Hamond hit homers as the Cubs scored a 9-3 win.

DENNIS SCHULE fanned 18 batters and Tim Hillis hit one out of the park as the Giants clobbered the Pirates 19-0.

### 30 Lap Main Event

#### Sprint Cars in Action Again at Ascot Saturday

That big noise you hear is coming from the powerful California Racing Association's speedy Sprint Cars which return to Ascot Stadium Saturday night.

Racing director Tom Haynes has lined up a bill that is certain to please the most blasé racing fans. He has signed the top drivers in the sprint circuit, and he has one of the largest fields of cars ever assembled hereabouts.

THE INDIANAPOLIS type sprint cars will vie in eight events to be topped by a 30 lap main event and a 15-lap semi.

Fighting for precious points in CRA championship standings will be such outstanding drivers as Danny Jones, Bob Mathouser (Midwest champ from Omaha), Allen Heath, one-armed ace; and Nick Valenta.

Others will include Colby Scroggins, Jack Brunner, Hal Minyard, Sonny Pratt, Rosie Russell, Ray Douglas, Louie Unser, Howard Gardner, Jack Austin and Rip Erickson.

ZOOMING OVER the one-half mile dirt track will be cars equipped with unlimited size engines that include Offies, Thunderbirds, GMC, Corvettes and Ardum-Mercuries. Saturday's time trials get underway at 7 p.m. First race is scheduled at 8:30.



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### AT BOWL-O-DROME

#### National Champion Bowlers Go Through Paces in PBA Tourney

America's greatest bowlers—the stars of the new Professional Bowlers' Assn.—are getting ready to go through their second day of qualifying this afternoon in the \$24,200 Southern California Open at the Bowl-O-Drome in Torrance. More than 150 pros started competition yesterday in the 36-game test co-sponsored by the PBA and the Alex Schreiber and Family Enterprises.

THE FOUR-DAY tourney is the final stop on the PBA's six-tourney summer tour. \$3000 will go to the winner Saturday night.

There will be no television programs showing the action, either live or on tape.

All five of the previous tourney winners of the PBA trail are in town for the Bowl-O-Drome festival. They are Dick Weber, Bill Bunetta, Don Carter, Tom Hennessey, and Earl Johnson.

Following are the leading money winners on the PBA tour after tournaments at Albany, Las Vegas, San Francisco, Fairless Hills (Pa.) and Paramus (N.J.):

- | Earnings         |        |
|------------------|--------|
| 1. Tom Hennessey | \$7050 |
| 2. Don Carter    | 6050   |
| 3. Earl Johnson  | 4550   |
| 4. Harry Smith   | 4150   |
| 4. Bill Bunetta  | 4100   |
| 6. Ed Lubanski   | 3788   |
| 7. Dick Weber    | 3150   |
| 8. Glenn Allison | 2700   |
| 9. Steve Nagy    | 2700   |
| 10. Ray Bluth    | 2350   |
- \*Denotes non-Bowl-O-Drome entrant.



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### Grunion Return To Beaches on Saturday Night

Those elusive grunion are expected to invade the Southland's shoreline Saturday evening in their first four-night run of the month beginning at 10:30.

The tiny silverfish will run for one hour, or until 11:30 p.m. according to the department of fish and game.

The grunion are expected to return Sunday from 11:15 to 12:15 and on Monday and Tuesday evenings, too.

Hunters are reminded that valid California fishing licenses are required for persons 16 years of age or older and that the grunion may be taken on the beach or in the surf by hand only.

### Torrance Can Clinch Title With Victory

By BILL SCHIPPER  
Herald Sports Editor

If the first contest was any indication of things to come, then Saturday's Torrance-South Torrance American Legion Crucial should provide more fireworks than a Fourth of July pyrotechnic when the cross-town rivals lock horns at Torrance Park at 1:30. Bay League leading Torrance, with a half-game lead and a 7-1 record with just four games remaining puts its thin and precarious edge on the chopping block for second place South (7-2) to take turkey swipes at.

LAST TIME OUT, South—behind the masterful two-hitter by Bob Wehrhan—dealt Ozzie Grimes' Torrance club its only setback of the season, 1-0, in one of the finest spectator-interest tilts of the year. South Torrance manager Joe Clements has set virtually the same east for the return duel, with Wehrhan scheduled to get the pitching call.

However, Larry Thomas will be waiting in the curtains.

Wehrhan, Thomas and youngish Eric Spellman combined to hurl South to a 2-1 11-inning squeaker over Gardena Sunday to keep the locals within striking distance of their intra-city rivals.

TORRANCE dealt Redondo a decisive 11-2 setback Sunday as Jim Armstrong hammered two home runs and lefty Tom Richardson fanned 12 batters for his 5th consecutive triumph of the season.

Richardson or the equally lefthanded Ray Wilson will pitch Saturday's long-awaited rematch.

Wilson was the victim of the 1-0 loss the last time the two clubs met, but gained some sort of consolation by breaking up a stout bid by Wehrhan for a no-hitter with an 8th inning double up against the right-field wall.

In last weekend's games, South's Johnny Mewborn walked to force home the winning run in the 11th over Gardena as Wehrhan kept his .334 batting average alive with a double—one of only six hits picked up by the winners.

Saturday, South edged Lomita, 6-5 as Mewborn smashed two doubles and Wehrhan one to spark a come-from-behind effort.

South, 6-5  
Torrance 100 300 020—6 11 1  
Lomita .. 110 001 011—5 15 3  
Andrews, Spellman (6), and Czarske, Barry (4).

Torrance, 11-2  
Redondo 101 000 000—2 8 2  
Torr. .. 222 000 32x—11 10 2  
Horne, Hearn (6), and Proctor; Richardson and McLean.

South, 2-1  
S. Torr. .. 000 010 000—2 6 0  
Gardena .. 000 000 00x—1 5 2  
Wehrhan, Thomas (9), Spellman (11) and Barry.

### Katy Reid Slugs 2 Homers in Girls' Softball Play

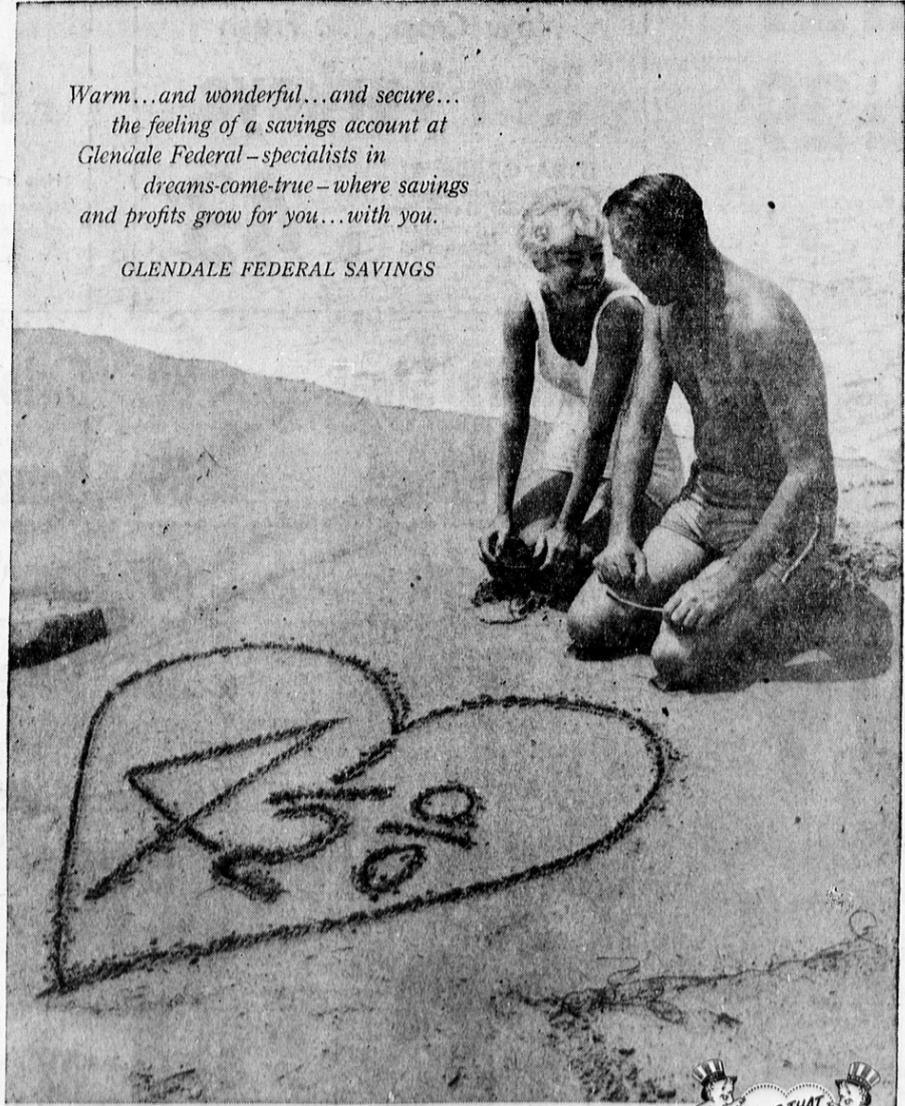
The Girls Softball League shapes up now as a four-team struggle for first place, and two fighting it out for the cellar.

Tuesday the Esabs defeated the Southwest Park team 23 to 7. The Esabs scored 7 runs in the first inning and coasted from there. The shortstop, Kathy Fisher, banged out two singles and two homeruns.

R H E  
Esabs ..... 776 3—23 11 1  
SW Park ..... 000 7—7 4 8

IN THE SECOND game the Chargers took care of the Rebels 9 to 2. This game was highlighted by 10 strikeouts by Gaynell McGee and two home runs by the third baseman, Kathy Reid.

R H E  
Chargers ..... 212 4—9 6 0  
Rebels ..... 020 0—2 3 1



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